



FRANCIS VINEETH VADAKETHALA CMI

Footprints of a Philosopher-Theologian Mystic

words of eternal life” (Jn 6: 68). In the true sense, the discourses of Father Vineeth, whether they were lectures in the classrooms, meditations in the chapel, or reflections and input sessions at seminars and conferences, were really inspiring, for they were the disclosure

of his own life and vision. Hence, people – students, friends, and well-wishers – followed him wherever he had been, for he spoke with ‘authority’, or better in Heideggerian terms, he spoke with ‘authenticity’.



Fr. Francis Vineeth Vadakethala, fondly known as Fr. Vineeth or Vineethachan, is one among the amazing personalities I have met in the Preshitha Province.

During my college days 1987 to 1992 and thereafter, I was at Divyodaya doing what best I could. I had chances of meeting

Fr. Vineeth a few times. Each time I have admired his hard work, as he was always found to be working on research papers. I was told by the CMI members that he would spend late hours on his scholarly work.

A true synonym of determination and simplicity... I was told that he was the one who coined the term ‘Divyodaya’. He authored many books. His effi-

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Adieu Father Vineeth!

cient skill of using metaphors from English, Malayalam, and Sanskrit was really awesome.

Though my association was less, he carved a thought in me that to serve the people is to serve the Maker. Devoted people like him are like ‘the salt of the earth’ as stated by the Lord. In 1993, if I am correct, he was made the Vicar Provincial of Preshitha Province. Otherwise, I have known him to serve Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram or Vidyavanam Ashram in Bengaluru.

Farewell, dear Fr. Vineeth: may you find glory in the Lord and may your soul rest in peace!